MAY 2 2 2003 James McClung Sr. 2665 Popes Chapel Rd. Ragland, AL 35131-5428 rules. Confirmed MAY 2 8 2003 Distance Center

EX PARTE OR I ATT THE ETC

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

RE: Docket No. 02-277 Don't abandon media safeguards!

San Antonio, TX 78217-1970

Jack E. Lewi, MD 4730 Aspen View

Dear FCC Commissioners,

I strongly urge that the FCC abandon its plan to end long-standing and critical safeguards that have served as an important "check and balance" system to help ensure diversity of media ownership. Under the proposal you are considering, one company in a community will be able to own the newspaper, several TV and radio stations, the cable system, and the principal Internet access company. There will be fewer owners of networks, stations, and newspapers nationwide. This will very badly damage true media diversity and competition. A competitive and diverse media is absolutely essential to ensure an informed citizenry and a healthy and vibrant democracy.

Eliminating these last remaining protections of the public trust would constitute a complete abandonment of the FCC's mission to ensure that our airwaves, which are owned by all Americans, are used in a manner which ensures the diverse range of voices and opinions needed in a healthy democracy. Loss of these protections would constitute a huge and unacceptable giveaway of public resources and political power to a few large and powerful media companies.

Further consolidation of the media in the false name of "deregulation" must be halted and in fact reversed. TV and radio news in the hands of a handful of profit-driven corporations has undermined our democracy more than any other modern force except the high cost of broadcast commercials during elections. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide crucial unbiased information to the public about most public issues. Americans depend upon the media to bring us information that will allow us to make the informed choices necessary for the well-being of our nation and our future.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I urge you to reject the current proposal to abandon the last remaining controls on media consolidation. Instead, I strongly urge you to break up the media conglomerates, to open the spectrum to a wide diversity of organizations and independent journalists, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine.

Most sincerely,

Jack E. Lewi, MD

Jack E. Lewi, MD

MAY 2 2 2003
FCC MAKACOM

WILLIAM H. COPELAND

315 SOUTH ROCK HILL WEBSTER GROVES, MISSOURI 63119

(314) 961-7114

Confirmed

MAY 2 8 Subs

Distribution - ---

5/16/03

Soutlemen & MRS. Wernathy the proposed relagation of broaderst Ownership sules would further concentrate cantral of news and information into the hands for very limited group -Tublic TV and radio information is already concentrated in a significant way in a certain iderlaged and political plicesophy. Territing further concentration of infarmation sources would seriously Condimine the ability of the accessean puple to secure the fixedows which the Constitution insures.

Ownership rules, they should be strengthmen to protect the publics-right to because!

WAROpeland

HEULIVLU SINSPECTED

MAY 2 2 2003

Johnny M. Petrocelli 3548 W. 161st St. Markham, IL 60426-4483

Federal Communications CommissiECC - MAILROOM

445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554 Confirmed

WAY 2 8 2003

Distribution Center

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Most sincerely,

Johnny M. Petrocelli Johnny M. Jetrocell RECEIVED & INSPECTED Judith J. Duda
14112 State Route 38
MAY 2 2 2003
Sterling, NY 13156
FCC-MAILROOM

May 13, 2003

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554 Confirmed

MAY & 2003

Distribution Center

Dear Mr. Martin:

I urge you <u>not</u> to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

Several years ago I personally saw NPR radio take Cal Thomas off the air because his conservative views did not align with NPR Radio views. NPR actually said this on the air when we tuned in to hear Mr. Thomas. Many of the media corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

Therefore, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that have helped to ensure a healthy debate in our country.

Sincerely, Judith J Duda

Judith J. Duda

Kristie Knoll Knoll Farms 12510 Byron Highway Brentwood, CA 94513-4233

Federal Communications Commission - MAH 445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

Confirmed

MAY 2 8 2003

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Most sincerely,

Kristie Knoll

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